

REMARKS

Claim 8 was objected because of an informality. Claims 1 to 5 and 7 to 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bryson et al. Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bryson et al. Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bryson et al. in view of Byrt et al.

The specification has been amended to correct typographical errors. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended. Claims 12 to 20 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 21 to 25 have been added.

Withdrawal of the rejections to the pending claims is respectfully requested, and reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

Claim 8 was objected because the phrase “the at least one continuous belt” lacked antecedent basis. Applicant followed the Examiner’s suggestion and changed the claim dependency from claim 5 to claim 7.

Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. 102/103 Rejections

Claims 1 to 5 and 7 to 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bryson ‘947. Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bryson ‘947. Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bryson ‘947 in view of Byrt et al.

The belts 162, 203 of Bryson ‘947 identified by the Office Action as the transfer element move at a constant speed. (See Bryson ‘947 at column 11, line 55 to column 12, line 30). At a single point of time, the varying speed of the side table matches the constant speed of the belts 162, 203, but not over an extended time. The fact that the velocities do not match over a length

of time causes the problems noted in the present specification at [0003]-[0006].

The driver of the present invention, using the epicyclical gearing described in [0050] and [0051], for example, permits the speed of the transfer element to vary during a time period as the side table changes speed.

The matching of the speed of the transfer element to the side table is shown for example in Fig. 13 and described in [0132]. For example the matching of the speed may be over 130 degrees (from 150 to 280 degrees) of the 360 degrees of the reciprocating motion of the side table.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite:

a transfer element configured to grip the sheet material article and move the sheet material article in a transfer direction onto a moving side table of the sheet material article trimmer; and

a driver configured to move the transfer element at a same speed as the moving side table during a first time period, the speed of the side table and the transfer element varying during the first time period, when the sheet material article is gripped by the transfer element and the side table is moving in the transfer direction.

In Bryson the driver for the belts 162, 203 do not vary the speed of the transfer element during a first time period where the transfer element moves at a same speed as the moving side table.

Withdrawal of the rejections to claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102 and the dependent claims under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103 thus is respectfully requested.

In addition, with respect to claim 10, it is respectfully submitted that the element 62 cited by the Office Action does not drive belts 162, 203 of Bryson at all. In addition, the claim elements 1d and 1e cited in the Office Action are not the belts 162, 203, but rather other elements of Bryson, as made clear from claims 2 and 3 of Bryson, for example.

A new claim 25 corresponding to original claim 10 has been submitted as well.

Withdrawal of the rejections to claim 10 and claim 25 is respectfully requested for this

reason as well.


New claims 21 to 24 have been submitted as well, and find support in [0132] and Fig. 13, for example.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance,
and Applicants respectfully requests such action.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC

By: 
William Gehris
Reg. No. 38,156

Davidson, Davidson & Kappel, LLC
485 Seventh Avenue, 14th Floor
New York, New York 10018
(212) 736-1940